

GRIZZLY BEAR AND WILDLIFE VIEWING

KNIGHT INLET • BRITISH COLUMBIA • CANADA

Gilaskala'

Welcome to Knight Inlet Lodge

Located in the traditional territory of the Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation and in the southern reaches of the Great Bear Rainforest, Knight Inlet Lodge is the preeminent grizzly bear and wildlife viewing lodge on the British Columbia coast. For over twenty years, first under the guidance of previous owners Dean and Kathy Wyatt, and now with new owners Nanwakolas, Knight Inlet Lodge has been providing its guests with unsurpassed viewing experiences of grizzly bears, whale watching and marine tours, nature hikes and First Nation cultural trips. Knight Inlet Lodge has an equally long history of promoting stewardship and conservation values through efforts such as protecting grizzly bear habitat, seeking to end the grizzly bear hunt, providing a venue for academic research of grizzly bear and rebuilding salmon stocks in the Glendale River.

In 2017, the Lodge changed ownership. The new owners are a consortium of five First Nations (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala, Mamalilikulla, Tlowitsis, Wei Wai Kum and K'omoks). The collective territories of these First Nations encompass a vast region of central eastern Vancouver Island and the adjacent waterways and mainland areas. Since time immemorial, these First Nations have had a cultural connection with their traditional territories that is critical to the maintenance of their culture, community, governance and economy. They are stewards of the territories; responsible for protecting the ecosystems and animals throughout, while also seeking to improve the well being of their members. The acquisition of Knight Inlet Lodge is a step towards fulfilling this stewardship responsibility. We look forward to building upon the Lodge's long-standing stewardship and conservation values.

The grizzly bear, or 'Gela' as we call it in our language, is revered by our people as a majestic being with many stories and legends that embody the spirit and strength of the Gela which transcend into the supernatural world. We are delighted to have you as a quest and excited at the opportunity to interact and share with you our culture and history and the natural gifts that our territory provides. We've got a lot to show you and hope you fall in love with our part of the world as much as we cherish it.

William Glendale,

Chief, Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation

Television, Magazine, Online and Newspaper features that have profiled KNIGHT INLET LODGE™







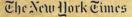


















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Knight Inlet

This wild and remote inlet is located 80 km by air north of Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada. At 125 km in length, this inlet is one of the longest on the BC coast and features towering snow-capped granite cliffs, waterfalls and glaciers. Knight Inlet, the traditional territory of the Da' naxda' xw Awaetlala First Nation, is home to an abundance of grizzly bears as well as killer whales, humpback whales, porpoises, dolphins, salmon, seals and sea lions.



Floatplane Flight Your Knight Inlet Lodge trip begins with a scenic 30 minute floatplane flight from Campbell River to the Lodge over the remote islands and inlets of British Columbia's wild west coast.

SEASON

Glendale Cove

Home of the Majestic Grizzly Bears Glendale Cove is home to one of the largest concentrations of grizzly bears in British Columbia. Spring and summer Grizzlies feed on the cove's abundance of sedge grasses, berries and shellfish in the inter-tidal zone. The returning salmon in the fall provide the high fat, high protein food source required for winter hibernation. This is a stunning setting in which to observe grizzly bears in their natural environment. The cove is also home to black bears, otters, deer, cougars, wolves and over a 100 species of birds, including bald eagles and other raptors.









General Information

In case of fire please proceed to the guest and staff muster area on the deck in front of the dining room where further instructions will be provided.

A map of our lodge is on the back of your room door as well as at back of this info pack

Please use caution when walking on the cement walkways and deck, they can be slippery when wet.

High Quality Helly Hanson[©] Raingear is provided during your stay.

All guests and staff must travel with a P.F.D (Personal flotation device) whenever they are on the water. Please make sure you have one.

A diesel generator powers the lodge. At approximately 10pm the lodge switches to battery power to conserve fuel. Between 10pm and 5am we are on limited power so please avoid the use of power hungry electronics like hair dryers. Battery chargers are fine.

Gratuities

Guests often ask about tipping the staff. Please be aware that Knight Inlet Lodge includes a gratuity in all of our pricing so tipping is not strictly necessary, however if you wish to leave an additional amount you may do so at check-out. Knight Inlet Lodge staff share all gratuities equally so please refrain from tipping staff individually.

Should you decide to leave an additional gratuity, the amount is totally up to you and should reflect your level of satisfaction.

Accounts

All purchases at the lodge (bar, gift shop, phone charges, etc.)will be added to your room account.

At the end of your stay your bill will be settled by the Lodge Manager or designated staff member.

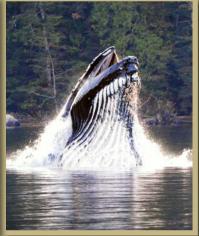
We accept cash, debit cards and credit cards (Visa & MasterCard).

Telephone and Internet

A satellite telephone system is availble for priority circumstances. Please ask one of our staff if you need to make a call. Knight Inlet Lodge is a 'Digital Detox' zone and internet is not currently available at our remote lodge.















Adventures and Excursions

Our 2023 season runs from May 21st to October 15th and is divided into two different ways to view the Grizzly Bears

BOAT VIEWING

May 21st to August 30th

PLATFORM VIEWING August 31st to October 15th





Just Across The Cove

In the spring and summer, the bears feed on the sedge growing around the estuary shores. Your guide will take you out in a small flat-bottomed skiff in search of grizzly bears and other wildlife like black bears, deer and eagles. Some bears are very tolerant of us and we can approach quite closely. Other bears are more skittish and we will respectfully keep our distance. Our main priority is that the bear's behavior is not altered due to our proximity.

For All Bear Viewing Tours:

A personal flotation device must be worn. No food or drink is allowed on the boats, no camera flashes around the bears please.

Kayak To The Grizzlies



Drifting quietly in sea kayaks, guests can watch powerful grizzlies forage amongst the fresh sedge growth in the protected waters near the lodge in Glendale Cove. While grizzlies are generally not social animals, spring viewing often affords the opportunity to observe courtship rituals and mating activities. Guests are often fortunate to see new cubs, fresh from their den, a photographic opportunity not to be missed.



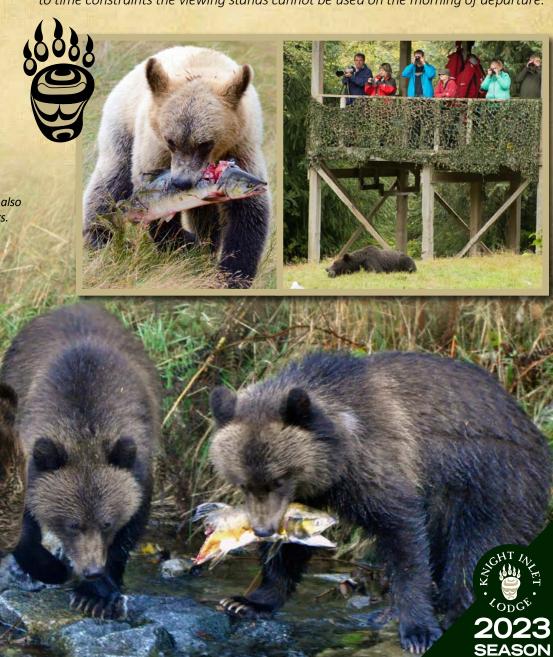


Platform Bear Viewing

From August 31st to the end of the season, our bear viewing changes from the estuary setting to the Glendale River itself, as hundreds of thousands of salmon enter the fresh water to spawn. Bear viewing takes place from secure viewing platforms located at two different sites along the river. Dza' na' sas Sa Gela, "where the grizzlies hang around" (finger stand) and Kwe lu we da 'as, "place where salmon spawn" (weir stand) To get to these locations, we travel by boat across the cove, board a bus and take a 20 minute drive along an old forestry road. Platform viewing sessions are two hours in length so be sure to bring and wear warm clothing. A PFD is required for the short boat ride and we encourage all to wear the provided rubber boots to get from the boat to dry land.

No food or drinks, no smoking and no use of camera flashes as this can disturb the bears. We also ask that guests refrain from any type of perfume. There are no toilet facilities on these tours.

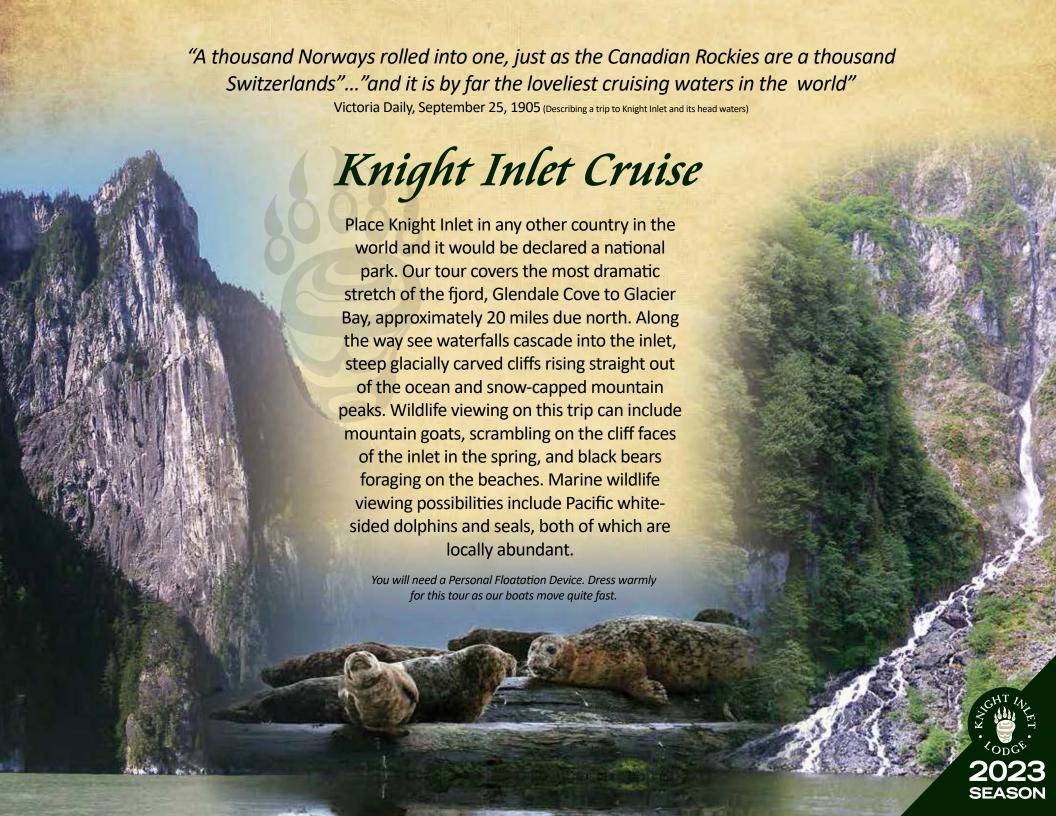
Please be aware that our platforms are located in a fisheries management area and that for these platforms we can only take 12 guests at a time. We are allotted four viewing periods daily starting at 7:30am and ending at 5:30pm. Also note that due to time constraints the viewing stands cannot be used on the morning of departure.













This hike takes place in the Kwalate Valley, know as the "place of many berries", which is a 20-minute boat ride from the lodge. This river valley is one of the few pristine watersheds left in the area. The main trail follows the beautiful crystal-clear Kwalate River that is surrounded by lush coastal temperate rainforest. Options include hiking up to a breath-taking waterfall or further into the rainforest to see some old-growth Sitka Spruce trees. Interpretation of flora and fauna and taking in the beauty of the rainforest are the primary objectives of this trip. An easy hiking pace is maintained throughout.

Fitness Level: Moderate 4 - 8 kilometer round-trip; uneven terrain with muddy areas and some steeper sections. We offer various versions of this tour. Please check with our staff for details.

What to wear: A PFD for the boat trip, rubber boots or sturdy hikers you don't mind getting muddy and possibly wet, rain pants and a jacket on wet days.

To maximize your trip enjoyment and experience, if you have any physical considerations (i.e. knee or hip replacements etc.) please discuss with the trip scheduler to determine the most suitable hike for you.



BIG CEDAR HIKE ALL SEASON May 21st to October 15th

"wild' dzadi" (having great cedar)

This hike takes place close by in Glendale Cove, a short boat ride across from the lodge. The Big Cedar hike is a shorter, steeper hike compared to the Rainforest walk so one should be in reasonable shape. On this trail we will see Western red cedar trees up to 8' across, some of which have bear dens built in their massive root bases. This hike also boasts culturally modified trees, evidence left from the First Nation people who used to inhabit this area.

Fitness Level: High: 1.5km over 2 hours, steep, slippery sections. To maximize your trip enjoyment and experience, if you have any physical considerations (i.e. knee or hip replacements etc.) please discuss with the trip scheduler to determine the most suitable hike for you.

What to wear: A PFD for the boat trip, rubber boots or sturdy hikers you don't mind getting muddy and possibly wet, rain pants and a jacket on wet days





TRACKING

ALL SEASON May 21st to October 15th



On our tracking tours, we are observing bear habitat we don't normally get to see on our bear-viewing tours. You guide will take you over to our vehicles opposite the lodge. You will be taken on a slow drive down the old forestry road looking for bear sign. Bear signs can include day beds, bear trails, "rub" trees and tracks. The object of tracking is not to see a bear. You will make short walks from the vehicle to look for bear signs. The fact that we are driving a vehicle and in a group of three or more people means that we are unlikely to witness a bear sighting. The tracking tour gives a rare insight into the unseen habits of the Glendale grizzlies.

Fitness Level: Low - moderate, walking distances are very short (not more than 80 – 100 meters from the vehicle). The terrain is uneven in some places.

You will need: Rubber boots for transferring from boat to vehicle, life vest, hiking or trekking boots (or keep the rubber boots on), warm clothing and rain gear if the weather is cool or unsettled.





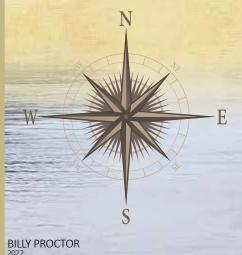
On this trip we will spend the day exploring the Broughton Archipelago which is situated near the lower end of Knight Inlet. One of the stops may be at Echo Bay which is located on the western side of Gilford Island and is home to a colourful array of local personalities, one of whom is Billy Proctor. He has lived on the west coast for over 65 years and runs a small museum he has opened near his homestead.

In Billy's museum we will explore hundreds of years of artifacts collected from the beaches of the west coast by Billy himself, as well as many which are continually being donated to the project. Another possible, and popular, stop is the First Nation Village of Tsatsisnukwomi (New Vancouver). On a visit to the Village you will get to tour the community Big House and learn about the history and culture of the Tsatsisnukwomi and the Da' naxda' xw Awaetlala First Nation whose traditional territory includes Glendale Cove.

Along the way you will have lunch at one of the many beautiful, secluded sites we have discovered over the years. If time allows and the tides are right we will also explore a hidden waterfall and be able to hike to an enormous cedar tree, 15' across, rumoured to be over 1000 years old. As far as wildlife, black bear and eagle sightings are common as well as dolphin and porpoise."

What to Bring: Money for Billy's gift shop, rubber boots for getting on and off the boat and for the short shoreline walk













Marine mammals are some of the British Columbia coast's most fascinating inhabitants. Orcas, more commonly called Killer Whales, are one of the more exciting wild creatures that we hope to see on this tour. Nowhere else on earth is there such a concentration of Killer Whales as the Johnstone Straight area.

This full-day tour leaves around 7:45am and arriving back at the lodge by 5-5:30pm. A substantial packed lunch is included. While the focus tends to be sighting Orca, we often encounter Harbour Seals, Porpoise, Dolphins, Steller Sea Lions, Minke, and Humpback Whales. Please keep in mind that all of these marine mammals (while very abundant in this area) live wild and free on this coast, and it is possible that some of these mammals may not be seen.

NOTICE: This tour is highly weather dependent and safety is always the number one priority. Your Knight Inlet Lodge crew and management team will monitor and access weather and ocean conditions as required.







"ik ya gawi sa unwe"

(above the clouds, coming down the mountain)

This is our easiest of three walking and hiking tours with a required fitness level of low to moderate. Enjoy an interpretive walk along a raised boardwalk up to a platform with panoramic views of Knight Inlet and Glendale Cove. Get a glimpse into the nesting life of Bald Eagles down below the platform. Boat and 4x4 mountain road access to the trail head.

What to wear: A PFD and rubber boots for the boat trip, light hikers for footwear on the boardwalk, rain pants and jackets on the wet days and hiking poles are available if desired.

Drive up time: 45 minutes; walking time - 30 minutes, platform time - up to 30 minutes; walking down time - 30 minutes; travel back to lodge time - 45 minutes. Totaling to about a 3 1/2 hour long tour.







The goal of the CBVA is to provide a voice for established bear viewing companies on matters of conservation, Government Tenures, and education to prevent re-starting trophy hunting of bears in British Columbia. As well, the Association has established a Training Program and Certification process for people wishing to work as guides in our industry. Recognized as having the first Certification Program in BC, the Association is working closely with Colleges and Post-Secondary Institutions throughout the province to incorporate our program into their Outdoor Wilderness Guide courses. As the voice for bear viewing in British Columbia, we ask that you support the CBVA by choosing member companies for further bear viewing adventures.



Stopping The Hunt

"As one of the planets premier places to view wild grizzlies in their natural habitat, Knight Inlet Lodge and its former owners Dean & Kathy Wyatt were committed to stopping the hunt. With the generous support of our guests, who bought "Stop The Hunt" bracelets and water bottles, Knight Inlet Lodge purchased the yearly hunting "tag" that had allowed a grizzly bear to be shot in our area."

While this stop gap measure was successful in saving the lives of a number of grizzly bears it clearly was not a long term solution. Starting in March of 2015 Dean Wyatt began organizing and financing evening receptions for our Provincial Members of the Legislature. By hosting a pair of information receptions every year in Victoria, one for the governing Liberal Party and one for the opposition NDP, we were able to educate them about the bear viewing industry and our concerns with the hunt. By 2017, after 3 years of receptions, the change in attitude towards our industry was very noticeable particularly within the NDP Party members. The Provincial election in the fall of 2017 saw the NDP Party form the new Government which was followed in December by a complete ban on the hunting of grizzly bears in British Columbia.

There were many dedicated individuals, First Nations and Environmental Organizations that also worked hard for many years to bring about an end to the hunt. While it is impossible to name everyone involved there is no question that the leadership role taken by Dean & Kathy Wyatt in presenting the bear viewing industries message in a respectful and professional manner played an important role in finally being able to protect the grizzly bears.

One of the issues that came out of the successful efforts to stop the trophy hunting of grizzly bears in British Columbia was the claim that the bear viewing industry did not contribute financially to grizzly bear research and conservation. It was mentioned time and again that bear hunting, through a fee on hunting licenses, contributed to conservation efforts where we did not. Although this was not entirely accurate, Knight Inlet Lodge has contributed significantly to both bear research and bear conservation programs since its early days, we now have the opportunity to demonstrate that our industry can respond in a positive way to issues.

Starting with a voluntary 'bear viewing license' for our guests in 2017, Knight Inlet Lodge implemented a mandatory viewing license in 2018. This \$25.00 fee is included in our tariff and 100% of the funds collected are entirely dedicated to Grizzly Bear Conservation and the long term welfare of Grizzly Bears. It is Knight Inlet Lodges hope that other bear viewing companies will follow our lead and contribute to the conservation and research fund.



Nanwakolas, the new owners of Knight Inlet Lodge, would like to thank Dean and Kathy Wyatt for their many years of stewardship of the Glendale Cove area and its wildlife, for maintaining a respectful relationship with the Da' naxda' xw Awaetlala First Nation over the past 20 years, and for the opportunity to carry on and grow their legacy.



Conservation and Knight Inlet Lodge



Salmon continue to feed the wildlife and enrich the land, streams and sea long after they have spawned and died.





Grizzly Bear Research

Since it's early days, Knight Inlet Lodge has financed and facilitated multiple independent grizzly bear research projects. The first grizzly bear viewing management plan in British Columbia was developed and adopted by Knight Inlet Lodge in collaboration with leading bear biologists, Barrie Gilbert, Ph.D. & Owen Nevin, Ph.D. The recommendations from Gilbert & Nevin came from a 2-year research project they conducted onsite at Glendale Cove.

For more information on past and ongoing grizzly bear research projects please visit our website www.GrizzlyTours.com

Energy

Knight Inlet Lodge has operated a micro hydroelectric system for the generating power to the lodge in the off season. This system was one of the first micro hydroelectric projects approved in British Columbia. We are working towards adding additional green energy options to power our lodge in the way of solar power generation.

Wild Salmon Conservation

Wild pacific salmon provide an enormous benefit for countless species and the overall health and function of coastal ecosystems, and this is what makes salmon a keystone species. Salmon are a critical food resource for coastal grizzly bears in the fall and Knight Inlet Lodge is dedicated to protecting and enhancing salmon food security for grizzly bears in our area. We have facilitated onsite Coho salmon enhancement projects in the past and have an ongoing commitment to salmon conservation projects in the Glendale watershed in collaboration with the Da'naxda'xw/Awaetlala First Nation and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Guardian Program

In 2014, a First Nations Guardian / Stewardship Program was established by the Chief and Council of the Da'nax'da'xw Awaetlala Nation. The purpose of this program is to have members of the First Nation whom are trained and certified to perform various environmental monitoring and conservation stewardship activities throughout the traditional territory of the First Nation.

It is important to have a Guardian presence in the area who act as the eyes and ears to monitor, protect and ensure our lands, waters and resources are treated respectfully. Much of the work the Guardians do is focused on the Glendale Cove area, you may come across the Guardians during your stay and you are invited to approach them to learn more about their important role with the First Nation.



History Of Hospitality Legacy of Change...



1968

Blair McLean opened a small salmon fishing lodge on the shore at Sandy Beach in Hoeya Sound. By 1976 the excellent fishing in the area helped the lodge grow

and Blair expanded by adding a float building. Around this time Blair started calling his operation the "Hoeya Hilton" as a joke. The name soon became popular with guests and local residents.

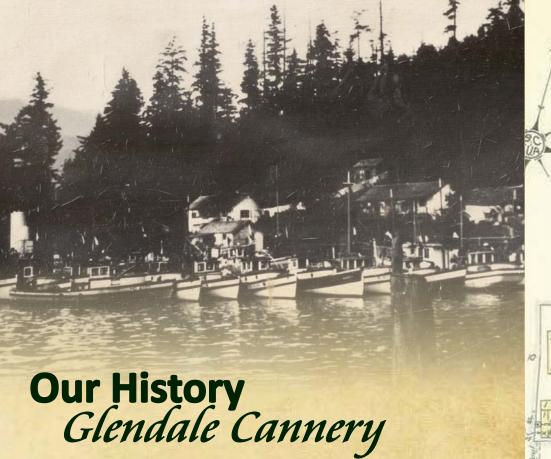
1978

Blair purchased the original ten acres of land in Glendale Cove and moved the entire operation there on a raft of floats. As the lodge grew and became one of the better known fishing locations on the coast of British Columbia the name "Hoeya Hilton" came to the attention of the Hilton Hotel chain. By 1985 they officially requested that Blair "cease and desist" using the name. From then on the lodge was officially known as Knight Inlet Lodge, although to many people it was still the "Hoeya Hilton".

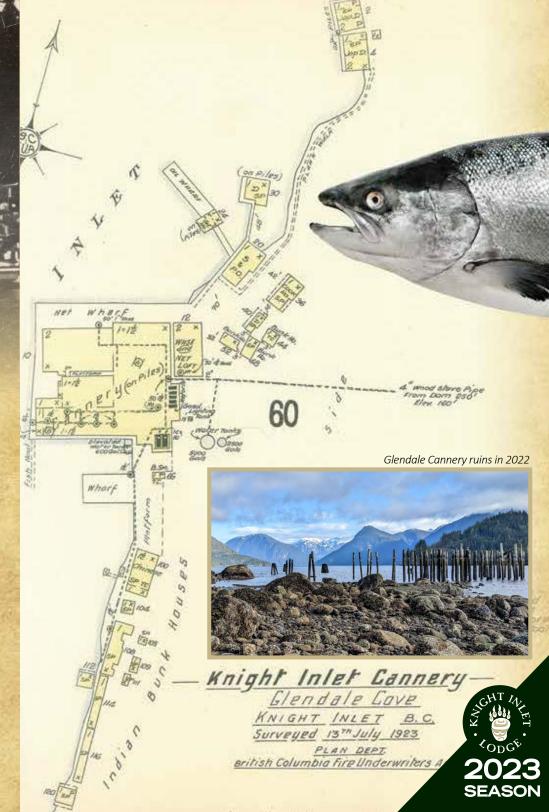
The Wyatt family purchased the property and operated it as a fishing lodge while starting the transition to eco-tourism and specifically grizzly bear viewing. 1998 marked the start of bear viewing with a modest 200 guests in the first season. By 2002 the lodge had grown in popularity and reputation led it to being named one of the 10 most exotic locations to visit by the A&E Television Network. Featured in media such as the New York Times, the BBC and National Geographic, Knight Inlet Lodge continued to grow in reputation around the world as THE place to experience Grizzly Bear viewing at its finest.

2017
Nanwakolas Timber Limited Partnership purchases Knight Inlet Lodge from the Wyatt family. Nanwakolas is a First Nation controlled entity consisting of five limited partner First Nations (Da' naxda' xw Awaetlala, Mamalilikulla, Tlowitsis, Wei Wai Kum and K'ómoks First Nations) Nanwakolas is thrilled to purchase the 'platinum standard setting' Knight Inlet Lodge and is committed to maintaining the lodge's high standard, while introducing a First Nation cultural component to the experiences offered by the lodge.

After being closed for two seasons due to the worldwide Coronavirus Pandemic, Knight Inlet Lodge welcomed guests from around the world once again in 2022. It was our best year ever for visitors and guest experience...even beating our record year of 2019!



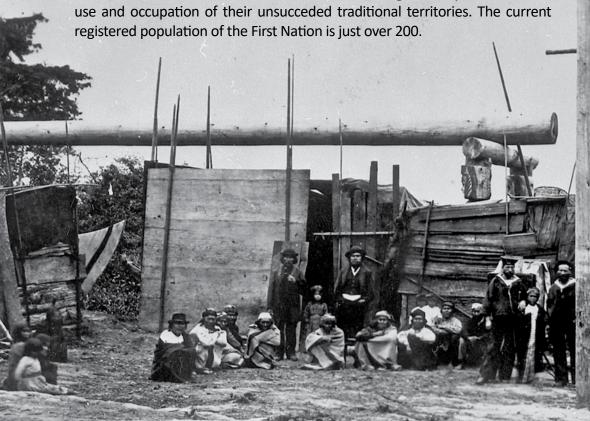
The fish cannery in Glendale Cove was built by Captain R.E. Goss in 1910 when he moved his operation from Sergeants Pass to Glendale. It was purchased in 1911 by the Anglo British Columbia Packing Company who operated the cannery until it closed in the late 1940s. In an industry known for rapid changes in ownership this was very unusual. At its peak the cannery employed approximately 150 people, many of whom lived at the cannery with their families. The workforce was a mixture of cultures including Chinese, Japanese, First Nation and European. Besides the cannery, which operated from late Spring until early fall, the company also ran a store that was very important to the local settlers, including Jim and Laurette Stanton, who lived in this very remote area. The Glendale cannery was one of the largest that Anglo British Columbia operated with yearly production of 25,000 - 60,000 cases of salmon. Sockeye, Pink and Coho salmon made up the majority of the fishery. It was a totally self-contained operation that supplied fuel, groceries and gear to the fishing fleet that worked and lived in Glendale Cove plus housing for the workers and their families. You can still see the support piling remnants of the Cannery when you out from the lodge today!

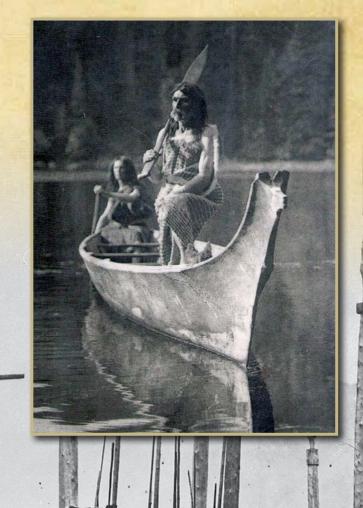




Glendale Cove and Knight Inlet are the traditional territory of the Da'naxda'xw/Awaetlala First Nation

Da'naxda'xw - "the sandstone ones" and the Awaetlala - "those up the Inlet" are part of the Southern Kwagyulth or Kwak'wakw'wakw language group. The Da'naxda'xw territory was at the head of Knight Inlet and the Awaetlala's territory was the area farther south including Glendale Cove. The first recorded census of tribal populations was in 1835 with 300 people belonging to the Awaetlala and 375 to the Da'naxda'xw Nation. Around 1860 a rock slide threatened the Da'naxda'xw village at Wakas (Wahkash Creek) causing them to join the Awaetlala at Kwatsi (Siwash Bay). By 1891 Indian Affairs had ceased enumerating the tribes separately. Today, the presence of Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation in its territories remains strong and they continue their use and occupation of their unsucceded traditional territories. The current registered population of the First Nation is just over 200.









Newsletter

If you provide us with an email address on your registration form you will automatically receive the next issue. Please be assured that we do not share our email list with anyone and that you can easily unsubscribe from the list at any time. Our newsletter is an excellent way to stay in touch with the happenings at our lodge, particularly important updates on our "Stop the Hunt" campaign. For anyone who would like to read past issues of our E-Newsletter they can be found on our website www.grizzlytours.com where you can also sub-scribe for the newsletter should you forget to do so while at the lodge.

Social Media

We would love to hear from quests that would like to contribute their experiences, photos or videos on our social media channels

To share your experience on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube simply email your pictures or videos to us. We also use DropBox or WeTransfer for sharing larger files or multiple photos. CLICK TO CONNECT!

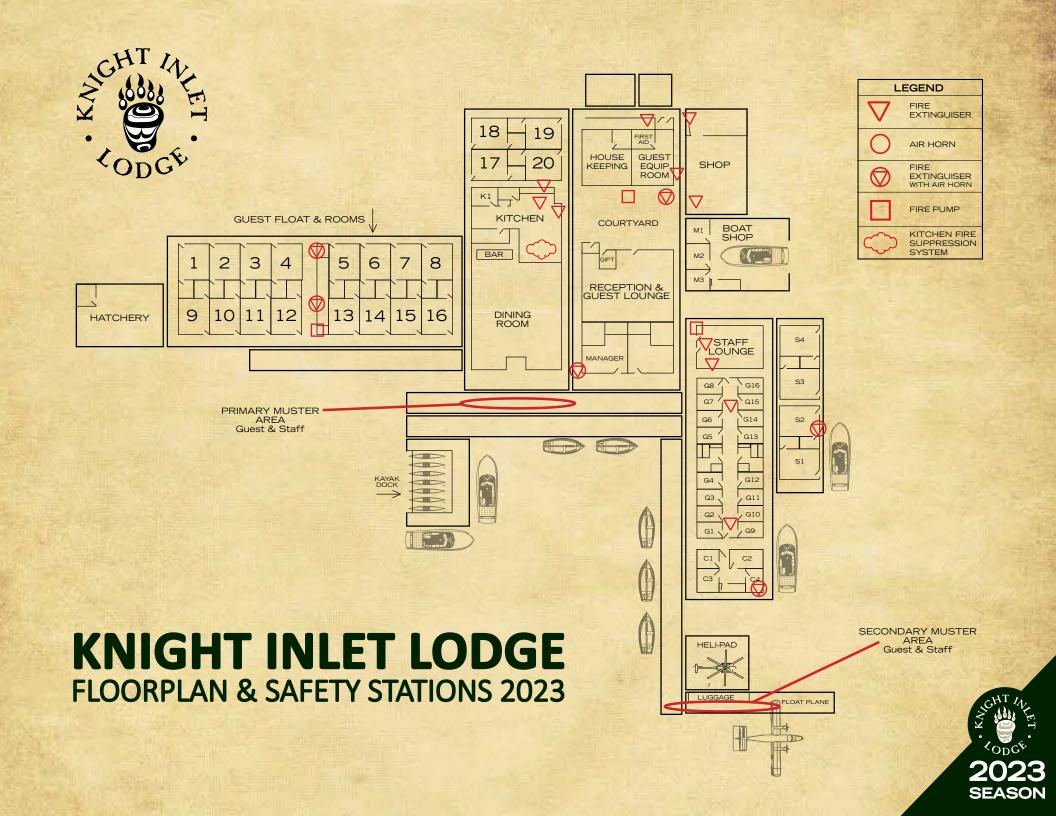


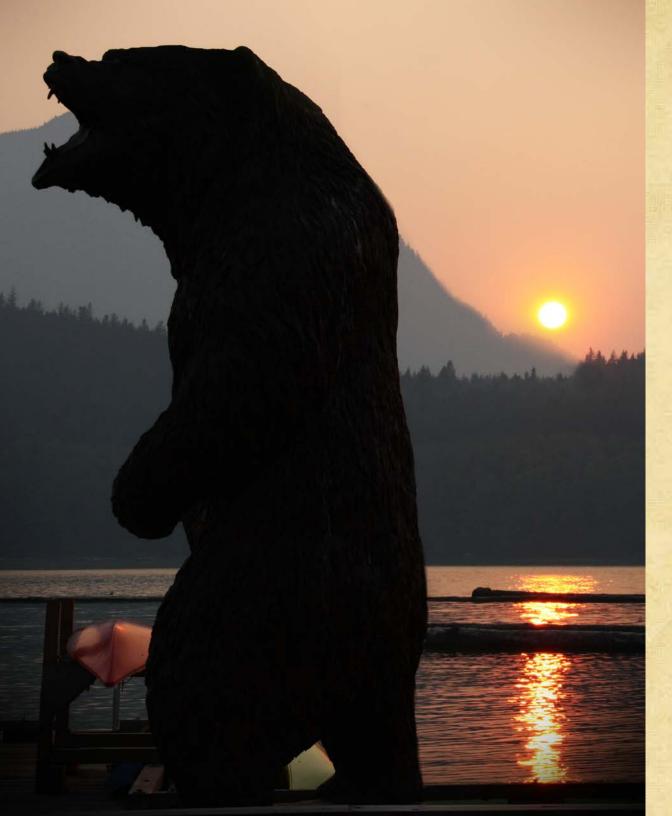




Finally... please share your experiences on Google and Trip Advisor to let others know what a fantastic time you had at Knight Inlet Lodge.









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